THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Eight proposals of widening and three proposals of strengthening the National Highways have been received in the Ministry amounting to Rs. 76.07 crores and Rs. 21.37 crores respectively during the current financial year.

(b) Annual Plan for the year 2004-05 has been formulated for sanction of estimates for an amount of Rs. 159.50 crores for various improvement works including widening and strengthening works on National Highways in Rajasthan.

(c) and (d) The proposals received from the Government of Rajasthan in respect of Annual Plan works are targeted for sanction during the current financial year depending upon the adequacy of technical parameters, availability of funds and *inter-se* priority of works.

Highways in Kerala

2511. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal seeking financial assistance for the development of Highways has been received from Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether Government consider to allot financial assistance required therefor;

(c) whether Government have allotted any financial assistance from the Central Reserve Fund for the development of Highways in Kerala;

(d) whether Government are undertaking any developmental works of bypasses in Kerala; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of Kerala has submitted a proposal for allocation of Rs. 400 crore for improvement of riding quality and completion of Bypasses in Kerala. However, an amount of Rs. 71 crore has been allocated for National Highway works in Kerala during the current year due to the limited availability of funds.

(c) A sum of Rs. 37.56 crore have been released during the last four years under revamped Central Road Funds (CRF) Scheme in Kerala.

(d) and (e) The works on Calicut bypass Phase-Ill on NH-17 and Alappuzha bypass Phase-ll on NH-47 have been taken up. These are scheduled to be completed by March 2006 and June 2007 respectively.

Contractors working on Highways

2512. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that contractors are supposed to display their names, addresses, ownership details and the cost of contract including the phone numbers of the offices all along the highways where they undertake work;

(b) whether it is a fact that this demand was made by social activists two years ago to the NHAI in interest of transparency and knowledge;

(c) the objections of the NHAI is not agreeing to this demand;

(d) what would NHAI gain by not allowing the public to know who the contractors are and what is the cost of the work and what they are supposed to do; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to concede to the demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (e) As per Ministry's guidelines, display boards are to be fixed on either end of the project containing the information regarding cost, year of sanction and length of the project. However, in addition, National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) also displays the name, telephone number and other details of the contractors and the consultants on its website (www.nhai.org) in the interest of transparency and the knowledge of general public.

Damage of NH-31 and NH-107 due to floods

†2513. SHRI VIDYA SAGAR NISHAD: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that NH-31 (Bildor Division)

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.